IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OF

In re application of

Christopher Stephen BARGE et al.

Serial No. 09/180,579

GROUP 1745

Filed November 12, 1998

Examiner J. Maples

1700 MAIL R00

FRAME AND LOADING APPARATUS FOR GROUPS OF BATTERY PLATES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of March. 6, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Rewrite the Abstract of the Disclosure as on the accompanying separate sheet.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 2, insert the following:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is the 35 USC 371 national stage of International application PCT/GB97/01176 filed on May 1, 1997, which designated the United States of America.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION --;

between lines 4 and 5, insert the following

heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

Washington, D.C. 20231